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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/645,083	08/21/2003	Peter Ar-Fu Lam	HGR B8B	6926

7590 11/22/2004
Peter Ar-Fu Lam
20104 Wayne Avenue
Torrance, CA 90503

EXAMINER

LEV, BRUCE ALLEN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3634

DATE MAILED: 11/22/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/645,083

Applicant(s)

LAM, PETER AR-FU

Examiner

Bruce A. Lev

Art Unit

3634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 August 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

BRUCE A. LEV
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an **abstract** of the disclosure. The language should be clear and concise and should avoid using phrases which can be implied, such as, "**is disclosed**", as in line 1.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-20 are objected to because the phrases "m feet above" and "n feet above", as in claims 1, 3, 12, and 15 are not appropriate. A more appropriate phrase would be "a first distance (or height) above...wherein the first distance (or height) is greater than the second distance (or height)...". Further, the use of the phrase "or", in claims 5, 6, and 9, is improper.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. **112**, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As concerns claims 1, 12, and 15, the phrase "one of said *supporting members* is fixedly secured to said *garment supporting apparatus*", i.e., claim 1, lines 8-9, is vague and indefinite since it is unclear as to how an element of an apparatus can be "secured" to the apparatus, when that element is already "part" of that apparatus.

As further concerns claims 1, 12, and 15, the phrase "the components", i.e., claim 1, line 17, lacks antecedent basis and therefore renders the claims as vague and indefinite.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-20 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. **112**, second paragraph, set forth in this Office action.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As concerns ***independent claims 1, 12, and 15***, the ***supporting apparatus*** comprising the ***combination*** of the ***first and second supporting members*** having a ***pair*** of extended ***arms*** arranged at a ***downward angle***, and being supported at ***"different heights"*** above the supporting structure; and a ***beam*** extending ***between*** the supporting members, along with the other structural limitations set forth are not set forth or suggested within the prior art of record.

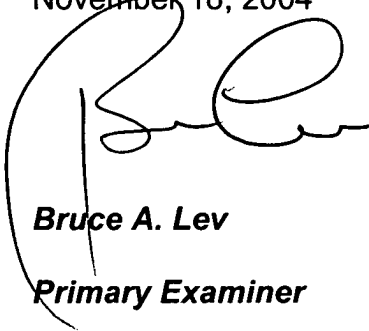
Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments or Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bruce A. Lev whose telephone number is (703) 308-7470.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-2168.

November 18, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Lev', with a large, stylized loop at the beginning.

Bruce A. Lev

Primary Examiner

Group 3600